



RCE/1763
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**REQUEST FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000 provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application Number: 09/686,370

Filing Date: October 12, 2000

First Named Inventor: Masahi Saito

Group Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: R. Kackar

Attorney Docket Number: 07553.0010

Attorney Customer Number: 22,852

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Note: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See "Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice," Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (March 20, 2000). Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114:** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, application must request non-entry of such amendment.

- a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
- i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief of Reply Brief previously filed on _____.
- ii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-mentioned application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required.)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

- a. ☒ The filing fee is calculated as follows:
- i. ☒ \$770.00 RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Petition for extension of time for (3 Months) \$950.00
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Checks in the amount of \$770.00 and \$950.00 are enclosed.
- c. ☒ The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies in the filing fees, including excess claim fees, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

12/10/2003 EFLORES 00000106 09686370

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Signature of Applicant, Attorney, or Agent Required

Name: Dustin T. Johnson

Reg. No.: 47,684

Signature:

Date: December 8, 2003

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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE REQUESTED
EXAMINING GROUP 1763
PATENT

Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07553.0010

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of:)
)
M. Saito *et al.*) Group Art Unit: 1763
)
Application No.: 09/686,370) Examiner: R. Kackar
)
Filed: October 12, 2000)
) **Mail Stop: AF**
For: Processing Apparatus for)
Conservation of Processing Gases)
(As Amended))

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed June 9, 2003, the period for response having been extended to December 9, 2003 by a request for extension of three months and fee payment filed concurrently herewith, and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, Applicants request that the claims be amended as set forth below.

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